

-2-

FIS920000282US1

09/759,016

00750434aa

Amendment dated 06/29/2006

Reply to office action mailed 03/29/2006

The following is a complete listing of all claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

**Listing of claims:**

- 1 1. (currently amended) A Skills Matching Application (SMA) ~~which allows a~~  
2 ~~user to communicate requirements to technical service suppliers in a way that~~  
3 ~~significantly reduces the process time and improves the accuracy of requests~~  
4 ~~sent to suppliers comprising:~~
  - 5 means for accessing invoking the SMA from a Requisition/Catalog  
6 (REQ/CAT) application, said REQ/CAT application being able to requisition  
7 technical services from a catalog of contracted suppliers;
  - 8 means for prompting a user through a series of screens to enter a  
9 services request into the SMA, the services request further comprising a  
10 Statement of Work (SOW) and complete a skills detail checklist for each of  
11 the technical skills requested to provide a detailed statement of required skills  
12 and abilities for an employee needed to perform said services request;
  - 13 means for selecting the SMA to identify contracted suppliers for each  
14 of said technical skills needed to perform said services request and to assign a  
15 priority to the identified suppliers based on said technical skills;
  - 16 means for submitting a notification to notifying the identified  
17 contracted suppliers in sequence based upon said SMA assigned priority  
18 selected in said selecting step by e-mail notification notifying the supplier that  
19 a new said services request has been entered into the SMA application;
  - 20 means for said notified suppliers to retrieve and review said detailed  
21 statement of required skills and abilities for an employee services request  
22 using the SMA application and submit a candidate against said detailed  
23 statement of required skills and abilities for an employee;

-3-

FIS920000282US1

09/759,016

00750434aa

Amendment dated 06/29/2006

Reply to office action mailed 03/29/2006

24 means for receiving at the SMA from a notified supplier a submission  
25 identifying a candidate or candidates ~~with appended resumes, as appropriate~~  
26 having the technical skills required to perform said services request; and  
27 means for notifying the user that a submission in response to said  
28 services request has been received at the SMA from one of said identified  
29 suppliers and displaying for the user the ~~supplier responses and associated~~  
30 resumes response submitted by said supplier; and  
31 means for the SMA to notify all said notified suppliers when the user  
32 acts upon the services request.

1 2. (previously presented) The Skills Matching Application of claim 1,  
2 wherein the SMA and REQ/CAT applications are Web-based and an SMA  
3 Web site is provided for suppliers to access to view request details and submit  
4 a candidate or candidates.

1 3. (previously presented) The Skills Matching Application of claim 1, further  
2 comprising means for responding to a user's selection of a candidate or  
3 candidates by invoking an approval and procurement process running on a  
4 computer system.

1 4. (currently amended) A Web-based Skills Matching Application (SMA)  
2 which allows a user to communicate requirements to technical service  
3 suppliers in a way that significantly reduces the process time and improves the  
4 accuracy of requests sent to suppliers comprising:  
5 means for accessing the SMA from a Web-based Requisition/Catalog  
6 (REQ/CAT) Web application, said REQ/CAT application being able to  
7 requisition technical services from a catalog of contracted suppliers;

-4-

FIS920000282US1

09/759,016

00750434aa

Amendment dated 06/29/2006

Reply to office action mailed 03/29/2006

- 8 means for selecting, by a user who needs to request a technical  
9 contractor, a SMA Web site;
- 10 means for ~~prompting the user through a series of screens in the SMA~~  
11 Web site to enter a services request further comprising a Statement of Work  
12 (SOW) and ~~complete a skills detail checklist for each of the technical skills~~  
13 ~~requested to provide a detailed statement of required employee skills and~~  
14 abilities needed to perform said services request;
- 15 means for selecting suppliers;
- 16 means for ~~submitting a notification to~~ notifying contracted suppliers  
17 selected in said selecting step ~~who are sent an e-mail notification notifying the~~  
18 ~~supplier~~ that a new request has been entered into the SMA application;
- 19 means for ~~suppliers a notified supplier~~ to access the SMA Web site  
20 database ~~by a supplier to view the detailed statement of required skills and~~  
21 ~~abilities for an employee of a said services request;~~
- 22 means for ~~providing, by a supplier, a supplier to submit~~ a candidate or  
23 candidates responsive to the services request by accessing the SMA Web site  
24 ~~and submitting candidates and appending resumes as appropriate; and~~
- 25 means for ~~viewing, by the user, to view~~ the supplier responses ~~and~~  
26 ~~associated resumes and to accept or reject either accepting or rejecting each~~  
27 ~~candidate submitted; and~~
- 28 means for the SMA to notify all said notified suppliers when the  
29 user acts upon the services request.

- 1 5. (currently amended) A computer system running Skills Matching  
2 Application (SMA) which allows a user to communicate requirements to  
3 technical service suppliers in a way that significantly reduces the process time  
4 and improves the accuracy of requests sent to suppliers comprising:

-5-

FIS920000282US1

09/759,016

00750434aa

Amendment dated 06/29/2006

Reply to office action mailed 03/29/2006

5 means for accessing the SMA from a Requisition/Catalog (REQ/CAT)  
6 application also running on the computer system, said REQ/CAT application  
7 being able to requisition technical services from a catalog of contracted  
8 suppliers;

9 a display system for ~~prompting a user through a series of screens to~~  
10 enter a services request into the SMA, the services request further comprising  
11 a Statement of Work (SOW) and complete a skills detail checklist for each of  
12 the technical skills requested to provide a detailed statement of required skills  
13 and abilities for an employee needed to perform said services request;

14 means for ~~selecting the SMA to identify contracted suppliers for each~~  
15 of said technical skills needed to perform said services request and to assign a  
16 priority to the identified suppliers based on said technical skills;

17 transmitting means for ~~submitting a notification to notifying said~~  
18 identified contracted suppliers selected in said selecting step by e-mail  
19 notification notifying the supplier in sequence based upon said SMA assigned  
20 priority that a new said services request has been entered into the SMA  
21 application for them to review and submit a candidate against;

22 means for retrieving and reviewing said ~~detailed statement of required~~  
23 skills and abilities for an employee services request in response to said  
24 notification; and

25 receiving means for receiving at said display system, from a notified  
26 supplier, a submission identifying a candidate or candidates with appended  
27 resumes as appropriate, said display system displaying, for the user, the  
28 supplier responses and associated resumes having the technical skills needed  
29 to perform said services request; and

30 means for the SMA to notify all said notified suppliers when the user  
31 acts upon the services request.

-6-

FIS920000282US1

09/759,016

00750434aa

Amendment dated 06/29/2006

Reply to office action mailed 03/29/2006

1        6. (original) The computer system of claim 5, wherein the SMA and  
2        REQ/CAT applications are Web-based and an SMA Web site running on the  
3        computer system is provided for suppliers to access to view request details and  
4        submit a candidate or candidates.

1        7. (original) The computer system of claim 5, further comprising means for  
2        responding to a user's selection of a candidate or candidates by invoking an  
3        approval and procurement process running on said computer system.

1        8. (new) A method for engaging technical service suppliers, comprising:  
2                prompting a user to enter a services request into a Skills Matching  
3        Application (SMA), the services request further comprising a Statement of  
4        Work (SOW) and a skills detail checklist for each of the technical skills  
5        needed to perform said services request;  
6                identifying by the SMA suppliers for each of the needed technical  
7        skills;  
8                assigning by the SMA a priority to the identified suppliers based on  
9        said needed technical skills;  
10                notifying the identified suppliers in sequence based upon said SMA  
11        assigned priority that said services request has been entered into the SMA;  
12                receiving at the SMA from a notified supplier a submission identifying  
13        a candidate or candidates having the technical skills needed to perform said  
14        services request;  
15                notifying the user that a submission in response to said services request  
16        has been received at the SMA; and  
17                notifying all notified suppliers when the user acts upon the services  
18        request.

-7-

FIS920000282US1

09/759,016

00750434aa

Amendment dated 06/29/2006

Reply to office action mailed 03/29/2006

- 1        9. (new) A method as in claim 8, wherein the user acts upon the services  
2        request by accepting a candidate identified by a supplier.
- 1        10. (new) A method as in claim 9, wherein electronic mail is used to notify all  
2        other notified suppliers that said services request is closed.
- 1        11. (new) A method as in claim 8, wherein in said assigning step the SMA  
2        identifies primary suppliers and secondary suppliers, and wherein said  
3        secondary suppliers are notified a pre-determined time after said primary  
4        suppliers are notified.
- 1        12. (new) A method as in claim 8, wherein the user acts upon the services  
2        request by withdrawing the services request.
- 1        13. (new) The Web-based Skills Matching Application of claim 4, wherein  
2        the selecting means selects a supplier having earlier performed for the user the  
3        same or a similar services request.
- 1        14. (new) The Web-based Skills Matching Application of claim 13, wherein  
2        the submission by the notified supplier identifies a candidate currently  
3        performing the same or a similar services request.
- 1        15. (new) A method as in claim 8, wherein said supplier submission includes  
2        a resume of an identified candidate.
- 1        16. (new) A method as in claim 9, further comprising invoking a process for  
2        approval and procurement of the candidate accepted by the user.

-8-

FIS920000282US1

09/759,016

00750434aa

Amendment dated 06/29/2006

Reply to office action mailed 03/29/2006

1        17. (new) A method as in claim 8, wherein the user accesses the SMA from a  
2        Requisition/Catalog (REQ/CAT) application.

1        18. (new) A method as in claim 17, wherein the SMA and REQ/CAT  
2        applications are Web based and an SMA Web site is provided for notified  
3        suppliers to view service request details and submit a candidate or candidates.

1        19. (new) A method as in claim 9, further comprising invoking a process for  
2        approval and procurement of the candidate accepted by the user, prior to  
3        notifying suppliers that the request is closed.